

On the first paragraph of page 2 of the official action, the Examiner states that the claims that have been withdrawn are "directed to an invention that was independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed" Applicants wish to redirect the Examiner's attention to the paper filed May 2, 1997 which explains why the claims presented in the January 9, 1997 response are not drawn to a new invention. Reconsideration is requested.

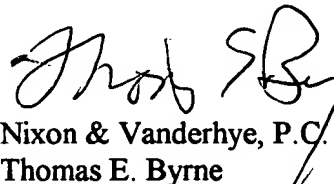
Claims 141-143, 164, 165 and 177 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bohle, et al., Cassel et al., or Murray et al. Reconsideration is requested.

Each of these references involves the administration of virus and tumor cells to boost an immune response against antigens present on the tumor cells. The amount of virus taught for this use is ineffective for the use specified in the subject claims. Both independent claims rejected by the Examiner (claims 141 and 164) are directed to a method of treating cancer where the amount administered is " an amount which alone is cytolytic to said cancer". In this regard see the Lorence declaration dated June 28, 1995 (previously submitted). This clearly distinguishes the subject claims from the references cited.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the fact that independent claim 141 specifies that the virus is a "mesogenic" Newcastle Disease Virus. None of the cited references disclose or suggest the use of a mesogenic virus.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and therefore a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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